

## Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WAHSDC 2148

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE, UR

SUBJECT: HONECKER SPEECH TO 25TH CPSU CONGRESS

1. SEDCHIEF ERICH HONECKER GAVE ONE OF THE FIVE  
SPEECHES BY THE HEADS OF SOCIALIST DELEGATIONS ON THE  
SECOND DAY OF THE 25TH CPSU CONGRESS IN MOSCOW. THE  
MAJOR EAST GERMAN NEWSPAPERS CARRIED THE TEXT OF HONECKER'S  
REMARKS ALONG WITH PHOTOS OF HIS APPEARANCE BEFORE THE  
CONGRESS. GDR NEWSPAPERS AFTER THE FIRST DAY OF THE  
CONGRESS CARRIED THE FULL TEXT OF BREZHNEV'S SPEECH  
AND EAST BERLIN TELEVISION CARRIED THE SPEECH LIVE FROM  
MOSCOW IN GERMAN AND RUSSIAN. THE THEME OF BROTHERLY  
SOLIDARITY AND COOPERATION ON THE RADIO TO THE ACHIEVEMENT  
OF PEACE AND FREEDOM WAS EMPHASIZED.

2. HONECKER DEVOTED HIS SPEECH IN ALMOST EQUAL  
PARTS TO PRAISING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE USSR  
SINCE THE 24TH CONGRESS, AND PREDICTION EVEN MORE  
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SUCCESS IN THE FUTURE. IN THE FORMER CATEGORY, HE

CLAIMED SUCCESS FOR THE SOVIET UNION IN SATISFYING THE NEEDS OF THE SOVIET PEOPLE, IN INITIATING A NEW ERA OF DETENTE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, AND IN PROVIDING A MODEL FOR COMMUNISTS EVERYWHERE OF A STATE DEVOTED TO PEACE, FREEDOM, WORK, EQUALITY, AND FRATERNAL BROTHERHOOD. IN THE LATER HALF OF THE SPEECH, HONECKER GAVE A ROSY PROGNOSIS OF FUTURE SOCIALIST ACHIEVEMENTS INCLUDING THE FORWARD MARCH OF SOCIALIST SOCIETIES TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF COMMUNISM AND A FURTHERING OF SOCIALIST CAUSES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

3. IN THE COURSE OF HIS SPEECH, HONECKER ALSO GAVE THANKS TO THE SOVIET UNION FOR SUPPORTING THE INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC. HE REFERRED TO THE SOVIET/GDR 1975 TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP IN GLOWING TERMS AND FORESHADOWED A SUCCESSFUL SED PARTY CONGRESS IN BERLIN IN MAY, 1976. HONECKER'S ONLY REFERENCE TO ANOTHER COUNTRY WAS A SWIPE AT THE "GREAT POWER CHAUVINISM" AND THE HOSTILITY TOWARD SOCIALISM AND PEACE OF THE PEKING LEADERSHIP.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH LAVISH IN ITS PRAISE OF THE SOVIET UNION, THE HONECKER SPEECH DOES NOT APPEAR PARTICULARLY OBSEQUIOUS. IT COMES THROUGH, RATHER, AS A MATTER OF FACT STATEMENT OF A FRIEND AND CONFIDANT OF THE MOSCOW LEADERSHIP. COOPER

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